

# Daily Report

# Sub-Saharan Africa

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#### Burundi

#### Burundi: Moderate Hutus Said Ready To Negotiate With Nyangoma

AB2304191096 Paris AFP in French 1542 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mwanza (Tanzania), 23 Apr (AFP) — Former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere today warned the two main parties in Burundi that Hutu extremists could overthrow their fragile coalition, according to sources close to the conference organized at the Tanzanian border. In spite of this warning, little progress has been made at the peace negotiations being brokered by the former Tanzanian head of state because of the obstinate refusal of the pro-Tutsi Unity for National Progress Party, [Uprona] to negotiate with the Hutus they accuse of perpetrating a genocide.

According to sources at the conference, moderate Hutus of the Front for Democracy in Burundi, Frodebu, on the other hand, are said to be ready to accept the principle of negotiating with former Interior Minister Leonard Nyangoma's National Council for the Defense of Democracy, CNDD. [passage omitted]

#### Burundi: Uprona Demands Dismantling of Hutu Militias

EA2304211296 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 0430 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Uprona [Union for National Progress] says that the sole purpose of its delegation's attendance at the Mwanza [Tanzania] talks was to ask that the extremist genocidal militiamen now plunging Burundi into mourning be condemned. The Uprona party will also ask that a plan aimed at dismantling such ideologies and militias at national, subregional, and world levels be adopted. [passage omitted]

#### Cameroon

### Cameroon: Policemen Reportedly Harass Nigerian Residents

AB2004205096 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 20 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Relations between Cameroon and Nigeria have been far from cordial in the past few months, following accusations and counter-accusations over clashes in the disputed Bakassi peninsula. The two countries took the issue to the World Court in The Hague. However, this seems to have done little to calm the situation and now Nigerians resident in Cameroon are being targeted. The authorities have accused them of being in the country illegally and have begun rounding them up, and now some Nigerian traders are protesting in the only way they can, as our correspondent Victor Epie Ngome reports from Yaounde.

[Begin Ngome recording] The southwest commercial town of Kumba became something of a ghost town for two days this week following a strike by Nigerian traders who own about 90 percent of the market stalls there. The Nigerians were protesting what they describe as too much harassment by Cameroonian policemen and gendarmes. They say the gendarmes and policemen even without being on duty invade their homes and shops and threaten them with detention, and even deportation, if they fail to produce all sorts of papers some of them fictitious.

To be left alone for a while, the Nigerians say they have to given lots of bribes to the policemen and the gendarmes. Nigerians all over Cameroon have been complaining about this kind of blackmail for years. This time, the law officers in Kumba are said to have detained an undisclosed number of Nigerians who did not have valid resident permits. The Nigerians say they have not been able to update their papers because there is no issuing office in Kumba, and when they travel to the nearest one in Douala they get arrested on the way.

Last night, as I was returning from Douala, a young Nigerian who was travelling on the same bus was fished out by gendarmes and brutally manhandled for not having valid papers. In Douala, I met a Nigerian trader with another story. He had paid 400,000 [CFA] francs for a resident permit, which was supposed to be valid until the year 2003, but recently he was told that the permit was no longer valid and he needed to pay more money to get a new one.

It is not known why the Nigerians are being picked upon and Cameroonian authorities are quick to say it has nothing to do with the Bakassi border conflict. Still, over the past week, Cameroonian papers have been full of stories about Nigeria preparing to wage full-scale war on Cameroon, an allegation which the Nigerian High Commission in Yaounde has denied. The high commissioner even told me that President Abacha is preparing to attend the OAU summit in Yaounde next July. [end recording]

#### Cameroon: Police Prevent Distribution of 22 Apr Newspapers

AB2204205396 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 22 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] There were no newspapers on the newsstands this morning in Cameroon. Among the newspapers that one cannot find on the newsstand are the LE QUOTIDIEN newspaper, one of whose editors, Daniel Atangana, explained to Francis Alanguabo why the newspaper failed to appear on the newsstands this morning. Let us listen to Daniel Atangana:

[Begin recording] [Atangana] We worked throughout the night without any problem. The newspaper (?was ready) at around midnight, but when it was time to take it out for distribution at 0600 GMT, we were surprised by plainclothes policemen from the Special Police Brigade.

[Alanguabo] Why?

[Atangana] They encircled the printing house. As a result, all the newspapers printed last night cannot come out. We tried and joined the governor who told us that he was not aware of anything. We also tried and joined the officer in charge of the commercial service of the police who also told us that he was not aware of anything. We later joined the officer in charge of the Fifth Police District of the City of Douala, who informed us that he had received orders from the officer in charge of the [name indistinct] special police brigade. We again tried to contact the governor who told us that he would try to see what he can do during the day to ease the situation.

[Alaguabo] Was there any previous threats by the security forces to intervene over the past few days?

[Atangana] No, there were no threats. There was only one press communique from the minister of communication who prohibited the media from talking about operation ghost cities. I am sure this is why the policemen invaded the printing house last night. [end recording]

# Central African Republic Central African Republic: Opposition Holds Meeting on Political, Union Ban

AB2304171396 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 23 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Ange-Felix Patasse's government in the Central African Republic is clearly very sore about last week's Army mutiny. The head of state himself was forced to seek protection in the French military garrison, and the mutineers only returned to barracks after they were promised an amnesty as well as their back pay. Well, there have been mutterings about possible political motives behind the mutiny, and that is now being used to justify a severe crackdown on political activity. Our Bangui correspondent, Joseph Benamsse, telexed this report:

The government announced the decision to ban all political party and trade union activities in a decree signed by the home affairs minister and made public last night on the state media. The ban takes immediate effect and remains in place until further notice. The government's spokesman, Charles Massi, stated simply that the suspension was a measure intended to preserve peace and order throughout the country. There were no further details mentioned. However, government officials told me the measures include the prohibition of all rallies, protest

marches, and public gatherings of more than 50 people. In light of the Army mutiny which only ended on Sunday [21 April], the government's suspension of political activity does not come as a surprise. Already the home affairs minister, Mr. Kiandji, has publicly blamed the opposition for having a hand in the mutiny. The minister accused the Democratic Council of Opposition Parties, an umbrella movement which includes seven opposition parties, of manipulating the Army mutineers for political advantages.

However, trade union sources told me they believed it is the government that is taking advantage of the recent Army mutiny, using it as an excuse to prevent civil servants from following the soldiers example and mounting a protest campaign of their salaries. Opposition parties are meeting today in Bangui to form a common strategy to challenge the government's decision which, they say, represents a serious setback to the democratic process in the Central African Republic.

#### Chad

#### Chad: President Deby Reappoints Resigning Premier Koibla

AB1904225296 Ndjamena Radiodiffusion Nationale Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 19 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Djimasta Koibla was reappointed Chadian prime minister this morning. President Idriss Deby today signed a decree reappointing Mr. Koibla who submitted to him his resignation and that of his government yesterday. Let us listen to his impressions:

[Begin recording] [Koibla] [passage omitted] I have just been reappointed prime minister and head of the Chadian Government. I feel satisfied, because during one year, I worked to bring to an end the transition period which has lasted too long in our country. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] Of course, you have been reappointed, but when will you form the new government to continue the mission assigned to you?

[Koibla] My government has resigned, and I was reappointed today. I will form my new government in the days ahead. [passage omitted] [end recording]

#### Chad: Members of Idriss Deby's New Government Listed

AB2204154396 Paris AFP in French 1052 GMT 22 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Ndjamena, 22 Apr (AFP) — This is the new Chadian Government formed after the adoption of the new constitution after the refrendum.

President	Deby, Idriss, (Col.)	
Prime Minister	Koibla Djimasta	
Min. of Justice	Maldom Bada Abbas	
Min. of Foreign Affairs	Ahmat Abderahman Haggar	
Min. of Territorial Administration	Nouri, Mahamat	
Min. of Finance	Mahamat Ahmat Alhabo	
Min. of Planning and Cooperation	Guelengdouksia Nassour Ouaido	
Min. of Public Works, Housing, and Transport	Nghote Gali Gatta	
Min. of National Education, Youth, and Sports	Greinky, Djibrine Hisseine	
Min. of Rural Development	Ali Mahamat Zene Ali Fadel	
Min. of Commerce and Industrial Promotion	Abbas Mahamat Ambadi	
Min. of Animal Husbandry and Water Resources	Mallaye, Mahamat Nour	
Min. of Armed Forces	Youssouf Togoimi	
Min. of Posts and Telecommunications	(Moctar Nganassou)	
Min. of Culture, Youth, and Sports	Farah, Mahamat Seid	
Min. of Environment and Tourism	Mbainodoum, Paul	
Min. of Public Health	Ngare, Mahamat Abba	
Min. of Mines, Energy, and Oil	(N'Gargos, Mosda)	
Min. of Communications, Government Spokesman in Charge of Relations with Highest Transition Council	Mbami, Youssouf Mbodou	
Min. of Women, Children, and Social Affairs	Selgue, Achta	
Min. of Civil Service and Labor	Garba, Salibou	
Secretary of State of Security	Ngaryanan, Noudjalbaye	
Secretary of State for Finance and Computer Sciences	(Ramat Issaka Almadou)	
Secretary of State for Transports and Public Works	(Djibrine Alifa)	
Secretary General	(Koumtog, Laoutegguelnodji)	

#### Chad: Former Prime Minister Moungar To Run for President

AB2204170796 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 22 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] A sixth presidential candidate for the 2 June presidential elections in Chad has been made known. He is Fidele Moungar, the very first head of government during the transitional period. The first five candidates, who are already known, include Idriss Deby, the incumbent head of state. Fidele Moungar is expected to return to Chad this week. Let us listen to him in an interview that he granted Mohamed Yessoufou:

[Begin recording] [Moungar] We have an eight-party coalition called the Collective of Political Parties for Change. We will be holding discussions in order to avoid unnecessary scattering. As you know very well, my political party is very much interested in presenting a candidate and I am also personally very much interested in the issue. I would like to tell you that if there is no special problem, I will be going to Ndjamena at the beginning of the week.

[Yessoufou] In order to deposit the papers for your candidacy?

[Moungar] I am going to Ndjamena, and while there I will hold discussions with all my comrades. Together, we will examine the problems that will crop up, but obviously I am going there because I am personally interested in the issue and because I believe that somewhere along the line probably have something to offer my country — something I was unable to offer it earlier on. [passage omitted] [end recording]

#### Chad: CNDS Chairman Elected as Party's Presidential Candidate

AB2204224496 Ndjamena Radiodiffusion Nationale Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 22 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The regular congress of the National Democratic and Social Convention [CNDS] of Adoum Moussa Seif ended at the 15 January Palace in Ndjamena, the capital, this afternoon. The congress, the theme of which was victory, brought together for three days CNDS activists who arrived from abroad, the various provinces, and the capital. At the end of their deliberations, the participants elected CNDS Chairman Seif as the party's candidate for the presidential election slated for 2 June. The congress also has allowed the party officials to form alliances with other political parties. At the end of the session, Mr. Seif thanked the participants for placing their confidence in him and then called on his activists to close their ranks so as to achieve a nationwide victory. [passage omitted]

#### **Ethiopia**

#### Ethiopia: Meles Vows 'To Retaliate' Against Any Sudanese Hostility

EA2304213996 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Council of People's Representatives [CPR] held its 27th regular session today. During the session, Meles Zenawi, prime minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, reported on the government's activities over the past eight months. In his comprehensive report, which touched on all sectors, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi noted that these activities had been fruitful. [passage omitted]

Turning to relations with Sudan, Prime Minister Meles Zenawi noted that the Ethiopian people and government greatly respected and loved the Sudanese people and that their only problem concerned the Islamic government there.

[Begin Meles recording] I wish to reiterate that the Ethiopian people and governmen have always wished the Sudanese people well, have esteemed them and have never harbored any ill feelings toward them. The fundamental fact that the Sudanese radical government must realize is that whereas Ethiopia would not wish to engage in any provocation, Ethiopia would be compelled to retaliate against any hostile act the Sudanese radical government engaged in against Ethiopia. [passage omitted] [end recording]

#### Ethiopia: Over 1,000 Refugees Return From Djibouti

EA1904113396 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia International Service in English 1630 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Some 1,000 Ethiopian refugees have voluntarily returned home on the third and last train convoy [words indistinct] following a (?successive) repatriation mission begun on March 21st. This brings to nearly 1,500 the number of persons who returned from Djibouti since March 21st. According to a press release by the public information section of the UNHCR, [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees], the repatriation mission which concluded the mass-voluntary repatriation of Ethiopians from Djibouti after some 4,000 refugees were repatriated in 1996 [sentence as heard].

The statement said since [words indistinct] 1994 to 11th April 1996 some 35,000 Ethiopian refugees have been repatriated from Djibouti on a voluntary basis.

#### Kenya

# Kenya: President Moi Not To Support Self-Serving Leadership

EA1904163296 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 19 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] President Daniel arap Moi said today that the welfare of all Kenyans superseded the comfort of a single individual. He added that in this connection no-one had a right to practice reckless and dangerous politics with the lives of Kenyans. President Moi pointed out that reckless politicking in pursuit of narrow and personal interest had brought ruin to many African countries. He said he would never befriend or support anyone seeking leadership for personal interest, adding that his longstanding ambition was to see peace and harmony among all the communities of Kenya.

President Moi was speaking in Eldoret to thousands of jubilant wananchi [citizens] who welcomed him during a brief stopover on his way to Kakamega. [passage omitted]

#### Somalia

#### Somalia: Aidid Militia Reportedly Kills 8 in Battle Near Airport

EA2204195696 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 22 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Members of the self-appointed group [Mohamed Farah Aidid's faction] have laid a roadblock near former Afgooye [southwest of Mogadishu] police checkpoint demanding 5 million Somali shillings [about 5,000 dollars] from passengers arriving at Bali Doogle Airport.

However, the Kilimanjaro Air Company who flew in the passengers rejected the payment and called on the airport for reinforcements. A few minutes later the security men arrived at the scene in a truck, and Aidid's militia opened fire on the truck, killing six of them and two pasengers. In the ensuing gun battle the company's men destroyed one battle wagon belonging to the militia.

# Somalia: 14 People Killed, 40 Wounded in Latest Fighting

AB2404110696 Paris AFP in English 1057 GMT 24 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, April 24 (AFP) — At least 14 people were killed and 40 others injured in fighting between miliatiamen loyal to Somali warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid and those of his rival Osman Hassan Ali Ato, witnesses said Wedneday [24 April].

Heavy fighting erupted overnight when Aidid's fighters attempted to oust Ato's militiamen from the sprawling former United States embassy compound in south Mogadishu.

Twelve of the victims of the battle, which involved the use of anti-aircraft missiles, rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns, were militiamen.

A stray mortar round landed in a residential area near the battlefield, killing a mother and her baby as they slept in their house. The woman was one of the people who fled factional fighting in central Somalia earlier this month.

Abdi Hassan Awale Qeybdid, the man leading Ato's militiamen, said his forces also destroyed three battle wagons belonging to Aidid during the fighting.

Aidid's supporters declined to comment of the fighting, saying they would not reveal their military secrets during "wartime".

The fighting appeared to have subsided at dawn, although the sporadic rattle of gunfire could still be heard along the front line.

More than 100 people are estimated to have been killed in internecine warfare between the militias since the latest round of armed confrontation started in the southern port town of Merca early last month.

The violence has since spread to Mogadishu and more than 60 of the victims have been Mogadishu residents.

Seven people were killed and dozens others wounded in three straight nights of clashes last week. Somalia has been ruled by feuding warlords since the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

Aidid, who announced the establishment of a self-styled government in June last year also captured the southern town of Baidoa in September. He has since extended his territory in the fertile Baidoa region, but is facing constant attacks from hostile factions.

#### Uganda

Uganda: 'Over 70 Defeated' Oris Rebels Flee to Zaire

EA2404105296 Kampala THE NEW VISION in English 24 Apr 96 p1

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Over 70 defeated Colonel Juma Oris [West Nile Bank Front] rebels on Monday

and Tuesday [22 and 23 April] fled to Zaire when the people of Arua [in northwestern Uganda] took up spears, bows, arrows and pangas [heavy knives] to pursue them with the UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force].

In two battles on Sunday morning, 30 rebels were killed and 11 captured. A big quantity of weapons and ammunition were also captured. Among the dead were four lieutenants identified by Uganda Army (UA) pips.

The rebels invaded from Sudan on 17th April through Midogo in Aringa county. UPDF overall operational commander, West Nile region, Lieutenant Colonel James Kazini yesterday described the support the civilians gave the army as "exceptionally patriotic" [passage omitted]

Twelve rebels were on Sunday seen crossing to Zaire via Oyoo Primary School in Vurra county. They included a woman and had 10 rifles. Another 15 rebels also crossed via Adraka trading center in Logiri division in Vurr a county to Zaire.

Another 30 rebels crossed Logiri division on Monday, followed by 28 more. All had guns. Local council officials and security sources said 12 others crossed on Monday at Ejupala via Manjuriko. They were reportedly received by Zairean soldiers [passage omitted]

In counties throughout the district, villagers abandoned their agricultural duties to pursue the rebels [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a crowd of about 5,000 Arua town residents filled the taxi park square on Monday to demonstrate against the Juma Oris rebels.

The gathering was called to show the public 11 Oris rebels captured over the weekend. Seven of them were captured by civilians. Arms recovered were also exhibited [passage omitted]

## South Africa: Alleged British Spy Grecian Challenges Extradition to U.S.

MB2304200196 Johannesburg SABC 3 Television Network in English 1800 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Former British spy and arms dealer, Paul Grecian, appeared in the Kempton Park magistrate's court again today, this time to challenge his pending extradition to the United States. He is to stand trial on charges of fraudulent arms deals.

[Begin correspondent Nan Roux recording] Mr. Grecian is wanted in America for a number of alleged violations of that country's arms trade laws, as well as for charges of conspiracy and bank fraud. According to the U.S. authorities, he was involved in alleged arms deals with Iraq while giving the impression that the arms were destined for Jordan.

He was arrested by Interpol in December last year on his arrival in South Africa to visit his fiance. After several court appearances, the state concluded that Mr. Grecian should be extradited to the U.S. to stand trial there. Mr. Grecian's defense today challenged this, arguing that the offenses cited by the U.S. did not warrant an extradition. Advocate Gilbert Marcus said the evidence submitted by the state was insufficient according to South African law to justify extradition. He also said that Mr. Grecian's alleged crimes were of a political nature. The state challenged this, saying Mr. Grecian committed them for his own financial gain. Mr. Marcus insisted that Mr. Grecian enjoyed the protection of the South African constitution — the right to a fair trial, to freedom, security, and the right to challenge evidence. The trial continues tomorrow. [end recording]

#### South Africa: Mandela Meets Botswana's Masire, Comments on COSATU Strike

MB2304084496 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0800 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Nelson Mandela says he does not believe that COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] planned one-day national strike next Tuesday will affect South Africa's trade relations with its neighbors, especially Botswana.

He was speaking on meeting Botswanan President Ketumile Masire at Pretoria's Waterkloof Air base this morning. President Masire is on a three-day official visit to South Africa.

Mr. Mandela said strikes were part and parcel of industrial society, and it was not the first time that the country was going to have a strike. He said South Africa's trade relations with other countries would not be affected.

President Masire said that during his visit he would discuss investments in Botswana. He said South Africa had both human and material resources, and that there was no reason why South Africans should not invest in Botswana, which had a very favorable investment climate. President Masire is to address Parliament at noon.

# South Africa: Botswana's Masire Proposes 'Permanent' Army for SADC

MB2304160596 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1500 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Ketumile Masire of Botswana has proposed that SADC [Southern African Development Community] member states should establish a permanent army.

President Masire is on a three-day state visit to South Africa. He told the Constitutional Assembly in Cape Town that emerging democracies in Africa were being undermined by conflicts and power-hungry dictators. He said that even in South Africa people were still engaged in political violence in some areas, despite the fact that there was now a new order.

#### South Africa: Botswana President on Defense Minister Khama's Statement

MB2404090996 Johannesburg SABC 2 Television Network in English 0500 GMT 24 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Botswana's President Ketumile Masire has dissociated himself and his government from a statement reportedly made by the country's defense head, General Ian Khama. A news agency quoted general Khama as saying that his country needed to prepare its defense to deal with instability that might spill over to Botswana from South Africa. President Mandela later said he believed the Batswana president who had told him that general Khama had been misquoted by the media. Last night Mr. Mandela and the visiting head of state attended a banquet in Cape Town.

[Begin Masire recording] We are relieved that the barriers which in the past kept us apart are no more. We should ensure that nothing is allowed to stay in the way of our countries to interact freely as good neighbors. [end recording]

#### South Africa: 30 Defense Firms To Display Products at Malaysian Exhibit

MB2204162396 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1604 GMT 22 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PRETORIA April 22 SAPA

— Thirty South African [SA] defence industry compa-

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nies under the auspices of Armscor would be exhibiting products at the Defence Services Asia exhibition in Malaysia from Tuesday, Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] said on Monday. The exhibition, in Kuala Lumpur, ends on Friday.

"The main theme of the SA exhibition will be armoured vehicles," Armscor said. The locally produced Mamba four-by-four mine- protected vehicle would be on display. South Africa would exhibit about 500 products.

Its delegation would be headed by Defence Minister Joe Modise and SA National Defence Force chief Gen Georg Meiring. Armscor would be represented by executive chairman Ron Haywood and members of its management board.

The SA high commissioner in Malaysia, Mohaite Mohale, would also attend the exhibition, Armscor said.

## South Africa: Viljoen Says Draft Constitution 'Too Western'

MB2304180296 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1521 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CONSTITUTIONAL AS-SEMBLY April 23 SAPA — The draft Constitution was too western, too individualistic and too libertarian, Freedom Front [FF] leader Constand Viljoen said during the first reading debate on the Constitution Bill.

He was concerned by the lack of provision for collective rights and self-determination, stressing that these principles would not only be for the benefit of Afrikaners. These concepts could perhaps be applied at a later stage in reaching a solution for the problems in KwaZulu-Natal, Viljoen suggested.

The goal of self-determination was the basis but not the condition of the FF's participation in the Constitution-making process, Viljoen said.

"We did not participate to get self-determination, we participated because we believed that a reasonable ideal we share with so many minorities all over the world could not in the long run be refused."

The FF was unhappy that the education clause did not take cognisance of the accepted concepts of collective rights and self-determination. The property clause in its present form could also lead to conflict in the future, Viljoen said. The FF held the view that right to life should be "from conception".

# South Africa: Further on FF Leader Viljoen Comments on Constitution

MB2304193196 Pretoria PATRIOT in Afrikaans 19-26 Apr 96 pp 1, 2

[Report by Henk van de Graaf]

[FBIS Translated Text] The coming week in particular, but also the period until 9 May, will ultimately decide if one will be satisfied with the constitutional negotiations or not, and this will determine subsequent decisions.

This is how Freedom Front [FF] leader General Constand Viljoen explained his and his party's future in an interview with PATRIOT. Gen. Viljoen was approached for comment after the six weeks he had referred to earlier had expired. He had told RAPPORT that the six weeks after 25 February would be significant to the political future of the Freedom Front. RAPPORT had then reported: "General Viljoen could even resign as a member of Parliament if 'sufficient progress' had not been made regarding Afrikaner self-determination. Viljoen confirmed that this was a possibility."

According to the Freedom Front's newspaper, FRONT-NUUS, Viljoen had said the target date for a principle agreement on self-determination with the ANC was 31 March.

In the interview with PATRIOT, Viljoen said that there had in fact been several delays in the negotiation process, and that was why agreements could not be finalized by 31 March. According to Viljoen, the possibility for agreements still exists. According to him, however, it is clear that the idea of territorial self-determination is not attainable right now. "Nonetheless, we are not abandoning the struggle for territorial self-determination because of that."

The delay in negotiations, according to Viljoen, is due to interesting developments around the issue of pluralism. There seems to be a bigger willingness within the ANC to accept and address the idea of pluralism. However, he was reluctant to elaborate on the concept.

This too is the reason why Viljoen has not yet reconsidered his post in Parliament, as he had indicated eight weeks ago. According to him, the two weeks ahead, including the period up until May 9 when the new constitution is to have been completed, are of great significance. "What would not have been included in the constitution, however, would be resolved in further accords with the ANC, just as before the 1994 constitution."

Ultimately one will have to look at the results, says Viljoen, and then decide if one is satisfied or not. Viljoen pointed out that he was attached to a political party and political structures. He could therefore not

make decisions on his own. If he is not happy with the outcome of negotiations, he will have to return to his party structures, and with them make a joint decision.

According to Viljoen, various problems made his party's negotiations difficult. "The Afrikaner people are too divided. The National Party, for instance, does not support self-determination, and the Conservative Party wants secession. The problem then arises: On whose behalf do you speak, and on behalf of how many people; and how do we know if the rest will accept what we negotiate?"

Another problem, according to Viljoen, is that people are not visibly supporting the negotiation process.

# South Africa: Mandela Wraps Up Campaign Swing Through KwaZulu/Natal

MB2104180096 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1731 GMT 21 Apr 96

[Report by Micel Schnehage]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PIETERMARITZBURG April 21 SAPA — President Nelson Mandela wound up a two-day African National Congress election trail in KwaZulu-Natal on Sunday with a visit to victims of violence and a rally at Edendale in Pietermaritzburg.

Addressing community leaders later at a meeting in the Pietermaritzburg city hall Mandela gave the assurance crime and violence was being addressed in KwaZulu-Natal. He said special investigative focus groups were in the process of being deployed in main centres to deal with violence and crime. Mandela praised the special investigation team probing south coast killings and the Shobashobane massacre in particular.

He told the crowd information had been received that senior officials in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands were implicated in violence. Focus groups would get to the bottom of violence in that region as well as the conflict in KwaMashu's L section. Violent crime and gangsterism KwaMashu north of Durban recently during between opposing groups within the ANC.

Mandela said there were still elements in the police force which did not support transformation. However, the majority of policemen had integrity and were committed to the South African Police Service, Mandela added.

Addressing about 6,000 ANC supporters at the Qokoloko sports stadium in Edendale Mandela said he had instructed police to arrest all criminals irrespective of their political affiliations. Tight security was maintained at venues addressed by Mandela during his

KwaZulu-Natal visit. A helicopter hovered overhead at the stadium and a razor wire cordon separated him from the jubilant crowd. Zulu children performed traditional Zulu dances for the president and he briefly toyi-toyied [protest danced] with the crowd during a song to pay tribute to the late ANC stalwart Oliver Tambo.

On Sunday morning Mandela visited residents of Creighton in the Midlands where 14 ANC voter education officials were murdered prior to the April 1994 election. He later went to Donnybrook where 11 people were massacred last month. Mandela laid a wreath at the graves of the slain ANC members and commiserated with the community. Enthusiastic supporters greeted Mandela wherever he went.

#### South Africa: Agriculture Minister Doubts NP Future in Unity Government

MB2204090496 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 21 Apr 96 p 11

[FBIS Translated Text] Agriculture Minister Dr. Kraai van Nickerk, who is also a member of the National Party [NP], has questioned the party's continued participation in the Government of National Unity [GNU], and warns that the ANC is carrying out "quiet political murder" against the NP.

This follows the past week's events in the Northern Cape, where the NP in the provincial legislature was forced to give up the finance portfolio.

Dr. van Niekerk says: "If the current pattern continues, the GNU is in danger of surviving in name only. There are signs that the ANC is developing a majority-power syndrome."

It is believed that Dr. van Niekerk discussed the situation in the Northern Cape with NP leader, Deputy President F. W. de Klerk on Wednesday. Dr. van Niekerk has described the latest developments as sensitive; and he still has to sit alongside ANC ministers in the cabinet, and enjoys good relations with them.

"On account of the nature of my portfolio, I am happy to be serving in the cabinet, where I can act in the intraests of agriculture. However, there are times when one has to grit one's teeth." He emphasizes that he does not wish to criticize the GNU unnecessarily, but believes that there is a need to reexamine the functioning of the GNU, and what is in the NP's interests.

# South Africa: ANC W. Cape Leader 'Confident' of Winning Local Elections

MB1904151396 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1400 GMT 19 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ANC Western Cape leader Chris Nissen has reacted angrily to reports that quoted him as saying the ANC has no policy plan for its candidates in the Western Cape. Yesterday Mr. Nissen was quoted as saying the ANC was withdrawing from a contest with the National Party in the Electoral Court because of a lack of vision within the ANC. Mr. Nissen said his party is confident of winning the election scheduled for the 29th of next month and doesn't want a postponement. He says the ANC has registered candidates in all constituencies.

#### South Africa: New State Tender Guidelines To Benefit Disadvantaged Groups

MB2204092496 Johannesburg RAPPORT (BUSINESS RAPPORT Supplement) in Afrikaans 22 Apr 96 pp 1, 7

[FBIS Translated Text] Price will no longer be the deciding factor in the awarding of state tenders. The degree to which the process will lead towards black economic empowerment will become a contributory factor when state tenders are awarded, and the government is prepared to pay up to 13.64 percent more for goods and services in order to realize this goal.

A document, known as the Ten-Point Plan, which contains new guidelines for the allocation of government tenders, states that in future attention must be given to tenders submitted by small, medium, and micro enterprises, or SMMEs, in order that disadvantaged communities also benefit from the delivery of goods and services to the government.

As part of the process of involving SMMEs in the tendering process, it is stated, inter alia, that for contracts worth less than 2 million rands, a points system will be introduced which will benefit this category of enterprises. According to the formula for the awarding of tenders, the price will constitute 88 percent of the points; the kind of enterprise, 10 percent; and the involvement of women as owners, a further 2 percent.

The problem, however, is that no definition has yet been developed for identifying SMMEs. For this reason, the ownership of the business will be taken into account in the awarding of points. The Ten-Point Plan says that, in any case, the groups targeted to benefit from the system are those persons who have been disadvantaged by discrimination. Should two businesses receive the same number of points, the tender must be awarded to the one with the largest number of disadvantaged shareholders

Several steps as detailed in the plan are intended to ensure the black businesses are given a larger share in the delivery of goods and services to the state. English is to become the language for tendering, the state tender bulletin is to be expanded to also include smaller tenders, and advisory centers are being set up to help the disadvantaged win state tenders. The tendering process is also being simplified, to make it easier for disadvantaged persons to obtain a share in the tendering.

Financial guarantees are no longer to be automatically demanded for tenders smaller than 100,000 rands, as the state is prepared to accept the risk should a problem arise with the execution of the contract. Amendments are also being made in the awarding of tenders of less than 7,500 rands; this is aimed, in particular, at awarding these tenders to the disadvantaged on a rotation basis.

According to the Ten-Point Plan, the cash-flow situation is a problem among many of the businesses which should be benefiting from the new tendering system. Accordingly, it has been decided that the state must make payment within 30 days of the delivery of goods or services, failing which, the state will have to pay interest at the prevailing rate. In the case of building or engineering tenders, the allocation process is to be amended to ensure greater involvement of "new entrants and historically disadvantaged groups".

#### Botswana

#### Botswana: Botswana Deploys Troops Along Disputed Kasikili Island

MB2304171996 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Botswana has confirmed that it has deployed troops near the disputed Kasikili Island, but says that it is part of an operation to destroy about 300,000 head of cattle infected with bovine lung sickness.

Namibian Foreign Affairs Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab said that Botswana's high commissioner in Windhoek, Ms. Rosemary Ditlhabi-Oliphant, had confirmed the deployment of the soldiers, police and antipoaching units. Mr. Gurirab said it was up to Namibia's Ministry of Defense to ascertain whether the infected cattle were the real reason for the troop buildup near Kasikili. He said if Botswana was aiming to entrench its presence on the island through the deployment of its troops, it would have very serious consequences. Namibia and Botswana both claim ownership of the small island in the Chobe River which forms part of the border between the two countries.

#### Mozambique

#### Mozambique: Renamo Leader Warns Against Demoting Ngonhamo

MB2304195696 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama this afternoon invited journalists to speak about Mozambique's political situation. Dhlakama said it was not a news conference but a simple meeting with national and foreign journalists. A number of issues were examined and Dhlakama spoke for over an hour before answering journalists' questions.

Issues examined by Dhlakama included the eventual withdrawal from the Mozambique Defense Armed

Forces [FADM] of General Mateus Ngonhamo if the head of state and the FADM commander in chief demotes him from lieutenant general to major general. Dhlakama said there are plans to demote Ngonhamo and if this materializes, he will personally order him to leave the FADM forces.

The Renamo leader said: The FADM forces' situation is bad. It is a theoretical army which in practice has no task. It is a loathed army which is likely to disappear. It is a forgotten army ceasing to be a national army, becoming a Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] force, as was the case before elections. Afonso Dhlakama said the so-called national reconciliation between former Renamo troops and former Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique troops is being destroyed by Frelimo.

[Begin Dhlakama recording] Frelimo has promoted Brigadier Lidimo to lieutenant general so that he could become the FADM chief of general staff, because he belongs to Frelimo. Mateus Ngonhamo who is a lieutenant general, forged in the battlefield, was placed second, as deputy chief of the FADM General Staff. Because of superiority complex, Frelimo has now decided to demote Mateus Ngonhamo from lieutenant general to major general, alleging the chief of the General Staff cannot have a deputy with the same rank. What does that mean? What will it mean in terms of national reconciliation? This strategy is not geared to guaranteeing peace or democracy.

Who will accept this maneuver? I will not. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to say I do not and will not accept this maneuver by my brother Joaquim Chissano. I do not and will not accept it. If this [words indistinct] Ngonhamo and his comrades in arms who have now joined the FADM forces continue to belong to Renamo because the FADM forces is not a bipartisan army. Afonso Dhlakama said as far as Renamo is concerned, the FADM forces are bipartisan, but Frelimo is heading toward a situation where the FADM forces will only be its army. [end recording]

#### Cote d'Ivoire

# Cote d'Ivoire: Lebanese in Abidjan Observe Day of Mourning

AB2304223496 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 23 Apr 96 p 20

[Commentary by Eugene Kadet: "Pain and Consternation"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Shops closed throughout the day, or symbolically for a few minutes; women clad in black, color for mourning; sessions of prayer and meditation. Like in Lebanon yesterday where a national day of mourning was observed in memory of victims of "Israeli aggression," which left in less than 11 days, 159 dead and 329 wounded, the Lebanese community in Cote d'Ivoire wanted to be closely associated with the moral and physical pain which plunged their country into mourning.

The tragedy is even more felt because 80 percent of Lebanese in Cote d'Ivoire come from the southern region of Lebanon, the main region of Israeli bombardment. "If Lebanese of Cote d'Ivoire are directly affected by this tragedy, Ivorians are equally painfully sharing our grief," Zaher Najib, president of the Lebanese World Cultural Union, told us at a briefing of the Ivorian press. "The fact that they open up their hearts to share our misfortune, is in our opinion, a support and an immeasurable moral comfort in these difficult moments," Mr. Najib concluded.

Salim Farhat, his vice president, shares this feeling and said he counts on the material support of his "Ivorian brothers and sisters" to contribute to the support fund for relatives of Lebanese victims. Contacted later on, Aliou Niagadou, president of the Ivorian-Lebanese Association, expressed his consternation and indignation about the "bombing whose target are civilians who went to seek refuge with the United Nations."

In these difficult moments, Lebanese in Cote d'Ivoire gave priority to prayers both in churches (today and Friday at the St. Michael and Lebanese Mission respectively) and mosques (Thursday at the Lebanese Cultural Center at Marcory).

#### Nigeria

#### Nigeria: Sierra Leonean President Arrives on Two-Day Visit

AB2304224896 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Sierra Leonean head of state, President Ahmed Kabbah, arrived in Abuja this night on a two-day official visit. During his stay in

Abuja, President Kabbah is expected to reschedule bilateral talks between Nigeria and his country. He is about now being hosted to a private dinner by head of state, General Sani Abacha.

#### Sierra Leone: Government, RUF Rebels Agree To Extend Cease-Fire

AB2304162496 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 23 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Within the last hour or so the Sierra Leone Government and the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels have issued a joint communique to mark the end of their latest round of peace talks. President Tejan Kabbah's meeting with the rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, yesterday was their first ever and it was also the first time the president had led the negotiations of his own right. Sierra Leone's former leader, Brigadier General Maada Bio, led the government delegation at the first round of talks in Yamoussoukro last month, and he also succeeded in getting the RUF to agree to a two-month cease-fire. Our reporter, Emmanuel Watani, has seen today's communique. On the line Richard Lee asked him what has been agreed:

[Begin recording] [Watani] Well, the first thing they agreed to was to extend the cease-fire agreement, and then secondly, they also agreed to continue the cessation of hostilities with a view of creating what they described as a climate of confidence conducive to the conclusion of a peace accord. And the third aspect was that they agreed to establish three joint working parties to deal with matters of peace accord, encampment and disarmament of combatants, and the demobilization and resettlement of combatants. In fact, these working groups are expected to come out with a draft agreement for consideration to a date that will be decided by both parties and the Ivorian Government in Abidjan.

[Lee] So, basically they have agreed to just keep talking?

[Watani] Exactly, but when I spoke to Foday Sankoh this morning, he gave me the impression that much has been left to be done because he reiterated the point that he or the RUF has repeatedly said that they don't recognize the elections. And when I asked him: so it means that about the recognition of the president, he said, yes, they are now only considering the delegation as agroup of people from Freetown they are dealing with and that they can be any group of people, in quote, he said even if they are monkeys they will discuss with them because they want peace in the country.

[Lee] That doesn't bode very well for the future if they still don't recognize Tejan Kabbah as president?

[Watani] Exactly, that is the question that is bordering each and everyone here: That if he is saying that they don't recognize Tejan Kabbah, it means that if they reach any agreement, this agreement cannot be binding because they don't recognize the other party.

[Lee] And where are these working parties going to operate? Will the RUF now send people to Freetown?

[Watani] Not at all. For now, I think they are going to operate in Abidjan.

[Lee] You said that no date was given for when these working parties will come together again and come up with a draft agreement. Will the cease-fire hold for that same indefinite period?

[Watani] Definitely, that's what I gather from both delegation

[Lee] Did they give any indication at all when this meeting will take place? Because, obviously, people in Sierra Leone are desparate for things to be sorted out.

[Watani] Not at all. They didn't say definitely when these meetings are going to take place.

[Lee] And you said you spoke to Foday Sankoh? Did you see him and President Kabbah together?

[Watani] Yes, today they spent about two hours only both of them in a tete-a-tete discussion. And after that they made a tour around the famous Houphouet-Boigny Peace Foundation with the Ivorian minister of foreign affairs, Essy Amara. In fact, they were moving freely, they were exchanging words at one point in time when they were trying admire this magnificent building.

[Lee] But did they seem to get on quite well?

[Watani] Yes, exactly, that is what you could judge. In fact, they were treated for lunch by the Ivorian president, which both of them accepted in doing.

[Lee] Now, did Foday Sankoh say at all whether he was going to go to Freetown?

[Watani] When I asked him about the question, he said he personally can't say that in fact, he is ready now to go to Freetown. All he said was that all these proposals given by the government for a free movement of the militiamen of the RUF and the amnesty, they are still going to study it and they are going to see how serious the government is over these proposals. But I don't think for now .... [pause] It's premature for someone or for him to say that he can move to Freetown now. [end recording]

#### Sierra Leone: Highlights of Government-Rebel Communique

AB2304221196 Abidjan La Chaine Une Television Network in French 2000 GMT 23 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The second peace summit on Sierra Leone, which opened yesterday, ended this afternoon at Yamoussoukro. With Thomas Bihanchi, we bring to you the highlights of the final communique which crowned this meeting:

[Begin Bihanchi recording] During today's meeting in Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire, His Excellency Ahmed Tejan Kabbah [Sierra Leone president] and Corporal Foday Sankoh, leader of the Revolutionary United Front [RUF], have reaffirmed their commitment to restore just and lasting peace to Sierra Leone and opted for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. They have also agreed to put an end to the hostilities so as to create an honorable climate of confidence for the conclusion of a peace agreement. To this end, they have agreed to form three joint committees to examine the following points:

1. Peace agreement. 2. Encampment and disarmament of combatants.

3. The demobilization and reintegration of combatants.

In accordance with their assignments, the three committees will draw inspiration from the following three general principles:

The imperious need for a just and lasting peace in Sierra Leone, the recognition of the fact that the armed conflict goes against the interest of the people of Sierra Leone, and the great need to obtain a real national reconciliation.

The recognition of the fact that peace, development, and national reconciliation can be achieved in a democratic order:

The need to maintain a social and political order free from all sorts of injustice, nepotism, and corruption.

The joint committee will submit their report to the plenary assembly within two weeks after the issuing of this communique.

The joint communique in charge of demobilizing and reintegrating the combatants will develop and present a strategy aimed at mobilizing international resources for the reintegration of the combatants.

Issued in Yamoussoukro on 23 April 1996. [end recording]

This communique was read by David Mobio. It was summed up by Thomas Bihanchi. It was jointly signed by the president of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the RUF leader, and President Henri Konan Bedie,

the Ivorian head of state, who expressed his personal satisfaction with this second Yamoussoukro meeting.

[Begin Bedie recording] I would like to congratulate the president of the Republic of Sierra Leone, the RUF chairman, and the observers from the international institutions. I would like to express the extent to which we can all express our satisfaction with the positive results of this second Yamoussoukro meeting. The final communique, which was read and signed a short while ago, testifies to this. Our satisfaction bears, especially, on the decision made by the two sides, the decision concerning the definitive cessation of hostilities, in other words, a final cease-fire. The outcome will certainly lead to progress - decisive steps toward the achievement of peace following the work of the committees established to continue with the negotiations. With these words, and while I once again congratulate you and wish each and everyone of you a safe return home. I would like to declare the second Yamoussoukro meeting closed. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

Sierra Leone: RUF's Sankoh on Cease-Fire, Not To Recognize New Government

AB2404100496 London BBC World Service in English 0630 GMT 24 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The talks that were to herald peace in Sierra Leone between the government and the Revolutionary United Front [RUF] have closed without a formal agreement between the two parties. However, a cease-fire is in place and detailed talks about the signing of a formal peace agreement will continue. The Sierra Leonean Government has also offered amnesty to all fighters of the RUF. This was the first meeting between the leader of the RUF, Foday Sankoh, and the newly elected president, Kabbah. On the line to Yamoussoukro, Robin White asked Mr. Sankoh how he and President Kabbah got on.

[Begin recording] [Sankoh] All right (?for peace's sake).

[White] Did you like the man?

[Sankoh] Oh yes. Why not? He is my brother, a Sierra Leonean. [laughs]

[White] Will you recognize him now as the president?

[Sankoh] Oh no, no. (?You see), it doesn't mean that by talking to him, it means that I recognize him no, politically no.

[White] Why not?

[Sankoh] Because we condemn the election. The RUF said peace before election. Why should we recognize

such a government which is not given the mandate by the majority of the people of Sierra Leone.

[White] You have agreed that the cease-fire will continue?

[Sankoh] Of course, in the interest of the people in the rural areas.

[White] Do you believe yourself that the war is now over or not?

[Sankoh] No, as we can see, you cannot trust these old politicians. These are [words indistinct]. You cannot trust them, I mean the old politicians. [laughs] These are (?old) rogues.

[White] So, what do you want to see happen before you will agree to end it all and come back to Freetown?

[Sankoh] Listen Robin, [words indistinct] so-called politicians in Freetown are committed to peace, we have to clean. We are (?cleansers). We have to clean the system. The rotten system that sent us to the bush should be cleaned. [laughs]

[White] But how do you clean it, how?

[Sankoh] Ah, that's the process we are on, and it will continue till the system is cleansed.

[White] What do you believe should happen to the politicians who you see as corrupt?

[Sankon] Oh, they have to give way to new politicians. They have give a chance for other people to play their own part [words indistinct].

[White] They don't have to die or go to jail?

[Sankoh] No, no, no. Oh no, but the law will take its course.

[White] So, what does that mean, the law will take its course?

[Sankoh] Oh well, there are many ways to solve the problem. [laughs]

[White] But they don't have to die?

[Sankoh] No, no, why? Not in the hands of the RUF.

[White] But you want a new broom to go through all the politics of Sierra Leone.

[Sankoh] Of course, yes. That is why we are fighting. [end recording]

#### Sierra Leone: Senior Officers Pledge Support to President Kabbah

AB1904163996 Freetown SLBS Radio in English 2000 GMT 18 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The chief of defense staff, Brigadier General G.O.Y. Turay, has on behalf of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Sierra Leone, pledged their total cooperation and support to the president, Alhaii Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, in his capacity as head of state and commander in chief of the Armed Forces. Brig. George Turay, who was giving an address when senior officers of the Armed Forces called on the president yesterday, told the head of state that they were under oath to perform the sacred duty to uphold and to protect the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of this nation. He assured the president that they will do everything possible to bring the rebel war to an end so that Sierra Leoneans will once again enjoy peace.

In response, the head of state thanked them for their assurance, noting that as their commander in chief, he was looking forward to meet and interact with them. The president briefed them about his forthcoming visit to the Cote d'Ivoire to hold bilateral discussions with the Ivorian head of state and his possible peace talks with the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] leader. The head of state also spoke of his diplomatic approach in pursuing peace through contacts with heads of state in the subregion whose responses, he said, have been encouraging. He looked forward to their cooperation so as to bring this war behind us and succeed in bringing unity to this country. Giving the closing courtesies, the chief of army staff, Colonel Komba Mondeh, on behalf of his colleagues, congratulated the head of state on his election and registered their (?unstinting) loyalty and support. Col. Mondeh assured the head of state of the priority they attach to ending the war as well as to defend democracy in Sierra Leone.

Earlier, the director general of defense, Mr. J.O. Wellington, who introduced the chief of army staff and heads of various divisions of the Armed Forces, informed the president that the ultimate responsibility of steering the Armed Forces to perform its principal function, rests on his shoulders. He noted that he cannot perform these functions if he does not enjoy the (?unstinting) loyalty and support of his officers, noting that it was in that regard he was introducing the key players whom he would rely on for that support. The short but impressive ceremony was witnessed by the vice president, Dr. Albert Dembi; the minister-designate for presidential affairs and public service, Mr. Momodu Koromah; the deputy minister-designate for defense, Captain (retired) Hingap Norman; and the secretary to the president, Mr. S.A.T. Bayo.

#### Sierra Leone: RUF Rebels Short of Food, Resume Attacks in North

AB1904170896 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 19 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Though the civil war may have subsided in many parts of Sierra Leone following the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels' declaration of a two-month cease-fire, it seems to have actually intensified in parts of the northern district of Tonkolili. There have been a spate of attacks on villagers. People have been killed, tortured, and abducted if they failed to support the rebels. Now it seems the rebels are getting hungry and are foraging for food, and they have reportedly attacked a string of villages in the region. Our correspondent, Sylvester Rogers, has just been there and talked to witnesses. He telexed us this report:

At least 14 more villages have been attacked by RUF rebels over the past 48 hours. According to local inhabitants, who fled the attacks, the rebels have stepped up their activities because they are desperately short of food. At the village of Masire in the Tani Chiefdom, rebels are reported to have gone from house to house looting food from kitchens and storerooms. Mr. Ali Bangura, a farmer, told me at the district office in Mabaraka that he and many other farmers were in big trouble because rebels even stole all the rice seedlings they were saving for planting. He said those houses where rebels found no busked rice were burned to the ground. Corrugated iron roofs were also plundered. One man who recently escaped from the RUF suggested that they would find them useful for their northern command post which he said they are rebuilding. It was destroyed about two months ago by the military.

Another man from the village of Makundu told me how he and several other villagers were forced to pound 350 bushels of rice for the rebels. He said the villagers who refused to pound the rice were whipped on the buttocks with 48 lashes. The blistered backs and deep wounds on the bodies of many of the victims who escaped the recent attacks are testimony to the continuing atrocities being carried out by the rebels here. An indignant policeman asked despairingly why inhabitants of Tonkolili District are suffering far more now than they did even before the cease-fire. It's widely believed that the rebels are targeting the area in an effort to store up looted food and other supplies in preparation for fresh fighting with the military should the RUF leadership fail to secure an agreement with the new civilian government.

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